



INSPECTION GUIDELINES: RESIDENTIAL INSULATION



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INSPECTION CODE: 008

SCOPE: RESIDENTIAL

CODES ENFORCED: CBC, CRC, CPC, CFC, CMC, CEC, CEnC, CALGreen, CEBC, CHC, and SMC

The information provided in this document is general and intended as a guide only. Each project is unique and additional requirements may be enforced as deemed appropriate.

- Approved plans and inspection record to be on the job site. (CRC 105.7)
- Review plans and energy calculations for the California Energy Code requirements for the minimum “R” value in walls, ceilings and floors and type of insulation to be used.
- Seal all floor sill plates and gaps around exterior openings. Make sure all surfaces are clean prior to sealing.
- Verify all gaps and voids around pipes, wires, ducts and conduit penetrations in walls, floors and top plates have been filled with insulation and effectively sealed.
- Baffles required at bird blocks/eave screened attic ventilation openings.
- Insulation must be secured in place to prevent material from coming in contact with flues and vents and to prevent insulation from blocking attic, under-floor or combustion air vent openings.
- Typical methods to secure insulation for a horizontal application include solid wires (friction fit), plastic netting or securing paper or foil faced insulation with staples. Note: In an under-floor application, any paper or foil facing shall be placed against the sub-floor sheathing (conditioned space). In vertical applications with no backing or paper/foil facing, line wire shall be installed to secure insulation in place.
- When paper or foil faced insulation is used, the paper or foil shall face the conditioned space in contact with the finish material.
- Lighting fixtures installed in ceilings of conditioned spaces must be designated ‘airtight’ or ‘AT’ and listed ‘IC’ for insulation contact.
- Recessed lighting fixtures not listed and labeled “IC” requires minimum 3 inches clearance on all sides and NO insulation on the top. Note: Only “IC” fixtures are permissible where insulation is required for California Energy Code compliance.
- All draft stopping and fire blocking in concealed combustible construction complete. Installer should provide installation certification for compliance with T-24 energy standards.
- If Quality Insulation Installation (QII) or other specialty HERS inspections are required, verification provided from HERS Rater.